



## **Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument**

### **Update – August 2006**

As many of you know, the public comment period for the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) began in October 2005, and closed on April 26, 2006.

Throughout the six-month public comment period, we hosted 12 public meetings across the state; visited with hundreds of people; and received several hundred pounds of printed comments.

We received 67,454 letters/emails on the RMP/EIS; including 1,825 non-form letters, 17 different form-type letters and 1 form-type questionnaire.

When reading these letters/emails, we look for specific comments or information that could modify the alternatives; develop new alternatives; supplement, improve or modify the analysis; and/or make factual corrections. Specific comments from each of the 17 form letters and the questionnaire are considered once, but not counted as votes. However, individual comments provided with form type letters or the questionnaires are included in our analysis.

These letters and forms contained about 7,600 specific comments. They covered every aspect of the draft RMP/EIS, but the most common topics included road and travel management (motorized vs. non-motorized), landing strips, economics, private property, lifestyles, oil and gas, and recreation.

We'll now assign these comments to the appropriate resource specialist/team member for analysis. Through this fall and winter, we'll be revising the draft and preparing a final RMP/EIS. We anticipate having the final available in the summer of 2007.

Developing the RMP/EIS has been a long process and we still have a substantial amount of work to complete before the final document is released. We certainly appreciate your interest in public land management and all the help and involvement you have given us during the process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gary Slagel".

Gary E. Slagel  
Monument Manager